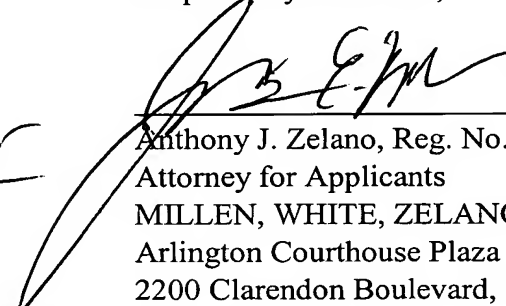


REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple dependent claims in order to avoid the additional fee. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce claims to canceled combined subject matter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Respectfully submitted,

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE:**

Claims 3 - 6 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) Apparatus according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the channel system contains at least two serial channel sections, each of which is delimited by fluidic connections.
4. (Amended) Apparatus according to ~~one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 3~~, characterized in that the channel system contains at least two parallel channel sections which are delimited independently of one another by fluidic connections.
5. (Amended) Apparatus according to ~~one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 4~~, characterized in that tightly sealing micropumps serve as fluidic connections.
6. (Amended) Apparatus according to ~~one of~~ Claims 1 ~~to 4~~, characterized in that micromixers, valves and micropumps serve as fluidic connections.